

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

20. (Currently amended) An implantable device for permanent or semi-permanent implantation in a human or animal body for connecting an infusion hose generally outside the body to a catheter generally inside the body, the implantable device comprising:

(a) a generally cylindrical, hollow shaft having an outside aperture ~~[[and]], an inside aperture, an axial length and a midpoint along said length;~~

(b) an upper fin encircling the shaft at generally the midpoint and including a peripheral edge, ~~the outside aperture and the upper fin substantially defining an area on which skin cannot grow;~~

(c) a lower fin encircling the shaft and including a peripheral edge; ~~[[and]]~~

(d) a channel-shaped pocket encircling the shaft, formed between the upper and lower fins, and including a gap defined by the peripheral edges of the upper and lower fins, wherein the distance between the peripheral edges of the upper and lower fins is smaller than a cross-sectional diameter of the channel-shaped pocket, wherein the peripheral edge of the upper fin extends over an area of said channel-shaped pocket such that tissue in-growth occurs substantially only within said channel-shaped pocket substantially due to the extension of the peripheral edge of the upper fin; and

an anchoring plate generally radially extending from the lower fin encircling the shaft, wherein, when the device is implanted, the anchoring plate is adapted to extend generally away from the skin.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) An implantable device for permanent or semi-permanent implantation in a human or animal body generally adjacent to the skin for connecting an infusion hose outside the body to a catheter inside the body, the implantable device comprising:

a port body having a shaft part, an anchoring part, an inlet aperture, and an outlet aperture, wherein the anchoring part comprises a generally radially protruding port fin, an anchoring fin, and a radial pocket with a gap, each fin having a respective peripheral fin edge, said respective peripheral fin edges spaced from each other thereby defining said gap, wherein the distance between the peripheral fin edges is smaller than a cross-sectional diameter of the radial pocket, wherein ~~the inlet aperture and the port fin substantially define an area on which skin cannot grow~~ peripheral edge of the port fin extends over an area of said radial pocket to form said gap such that tissue in-growth occurs substantially only within said radial pocket substantially due to the extension of the peripheral edge of the port fin; and  
an anchoring plate generally radially arranged around the anchoring part, said plate including a periphery, whereby, when the device is implanted, the periphery is farther from the skin than the rest of the anchoring plate.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) An implantable device for permanent or semi-permanent implantation in a human or animal body generally adjacent to the skin for connecting an infusion hose generally outside the body to a catheter generally inside the body, the implantable device comprising:

a generally cylindrical, hollow shaft having an outside end and an inside end and an outside opening adjacent to the outside end and an inside opening adjacent to the inside end, said shaft having an anchoring portion including a fixed radial fin extending generally radially from the shaft, ~~[[an]]~~ a fixed anchoring fin extending generally radially from the shaft, and a channel-like pocket for tissue in-growth between the radial and anchoring fins, each fin having a peripheral fin edge that

defines one side of a gap in the channel-like pocket, the channel-like pocket having a rounded cross-sectional area and a rough channel surface.

26. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 25 further comprising a generally disc-shaped anchoring plate carried around the shaft in the anchoring portion, said anchoring plate having an annular portion adjacent to the shaft and a peripheral portion, and being curved along its radial extent, whereby, when the device is implanted, the peripheral portion is further from the skin than the annular portion.

27. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 26 wherein the anchoring fin protrudes from the anchoring plate.

28. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 25 wherein the distance between the peripheral fin edges is smaller than the diameter of the rounded cross-sectional area of the channel-like pocket.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 25, wherein the anchoring portion is at least partially coated with a bio-active material.

31. (Currently amended) An implantable device comprising:

- (a) a generally cylindrical, hollow shaft for partial implantation comprising:
  - (i) an upper radial fin integral with the shaft and protruding from an exterior portion of the shaft;
  - (ii) a lower radial fin integral with the shaft and protruding from an exterior portion of the shaft; and
  - (iii) a channel-shaped radial pocket integral with and encircling the shaft, the pocket defined by the upper radial fin and the lower radial fin, the radial pocket comprising a gap defined by a peripheral edge of the upper radial fin and a peripheral edge of the lower radial fin, wherein the upper radial

- fin extends over an area of said channel-shaped radial pocket such that tissue in-growth occurs substantially only within said channel-shaped radial pocket substantially due to the extension of the upper radial fin; and
- (b) an anchoring plate generally extending radially from the lower radial fin, wherein the anchoring plate comprises:
- (a) a central portion disposed along a first radial plane with the lower radial fin; and
- (b) a peripheral portion disposed along a second radial plane positioned farther from the upper radial fin than the first radial plane.
32. (Canceled)
33. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 31 wherein the anchoring plate is attached to the lower radial fin.
34. (Previously Presented) The implantable device of claim 31 wherein the lower radial fin, the channel-shaped radial pocket, and the anchoring plate are at least partially coated with a bioactive material.
35. (Currently amended) The implantable device of claim 31 wherein the shaft has an outside end, and the outside end and an upper portion of the upper radial fin substantially define an area on which skin cannot grow.
36. (New) The implantable device of claim 20 wherein the channel-shaped pocket comprises a rough surface.
37. (New) The implantable device of claim 36 wherein the rough surface comprises a bio-active material.
38. (New) The implantable device of claim 23 wherein the radial pocket comprises a rough surface.

39. (New) The implantable device of claim 38 wherein the rough surface comprises a bio-active material.

40. (New) The implantable device of claim 25 wherein the rough channel surface comprises a bio-active material.

41. (New) The implantable device of claim 31 wherein the channel-shaped radial pocket comprises a rough surface.

42. (New) The implantable device of claim 41 wherein the rough surface comprises a bio-active material.